Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- (Previously Presented) A halogen-free fire-retarded plastic composition suitable for coating a substrate, comprising an acrylic resin and an intumescent agent, wherein:
- said composition is in the plastisol state and comprises a plasticizing medium in which the acrylic resin and the intumescent agent are dispersed;
- said composition exhibits, at low shear rates, Newtonian rheological behavior with a viscosity of less than 6000 mPa.s; and
- said composition exhibits, at high shear rates, pseudoplastic rheological behavior.
- 2. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the <u>a</u> weight proportion of the plasticizing medium comprising a phthalate <u>or a phosphate</u> is at most equal to 200% with respect to the weight of acrylic resin and/or the <u>a</u> weight proportion of the intumescent agent is at most equal to 200% with respect to the weight of acrylic resin.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plasticizing medium comprises predominantly, by weight, an organic phosphate.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 3, wherein the plasticizing medium comprises a phthalate.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the plasticizing medium is between 100 and 200% by weight of resin.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the intumescent agent is between 50 and 200% by weight of resin.

- 7. (Withdrawn) A flame-retarded composite yarn comprising a core made of a material of low combustibility and a sheath made of resin, wherein said yarn is capable of being obtained by coating said core with the flame-retarded composition as claimed in claim 1.
- 8. (Withdrawn) The yarn as claimed in claim 7, wherein the material of the core is a continuous glass filament.
- 9. (Withdrawn) A composite structure comprising a substrate of low combustibility and at least one layer of resin, wherein said structure is capable of being obtained by coating the substrate with a flame-retarded composition as claimed in claim 1.
- 10. (Withdrawn) A textile structure in which yarns as claimed in claim 7 are assembled or entangled.
- 11. (Withdrawn) A sun screen comprising a textile structure as claimed in claim 9.
 - 12. (Withdrawn) A sign comprising a textile structure as claimed in claim 9.
- 13. (Withdrawn) A covering for walls or ceilings, comprising a textile structure as claimed in claim 9.
- 14. (Withdrawn) A process for obtaining a yarn comprising a core and a plastic sheath comprising a halogen-free fire-retarded composition, consisting of at least one acrylic resin and an intumescent agent which are dispersed in a plasticizing medium, which process is characterized in that:
 - a) a die suitable for passage of the core of said yarn is used;
 - b) the plastic composition is used in the ungelled plastisol state;
- c) the core of the yarn is passed through said die, with a peripheral distribution of the plastisol around said core;

- d) the rheological properties of the plastisol at the shear rate of the die, at least equal to 20,000 s⁻¹, are adapted by formulating said ungelled plastisol so that at low shear rate, at most equal to 400 s⁻¹, it exhibits a Newtownian behaviour, with a viscosity of less than or equal to 6,000 mPa.s, measured with a Brookfield RVT viscometer at 20 rpm, and at high shear rate, at least equal to 10,000 s⁻¹, it exhibits a pseudoplastic behaviour;
 - e) the gelling of the fire-retarded composition is carried out.
- 15. (Withdrawn) The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the <u>a</u> weight proportion of the plasticizing medium in the plastisol comprising a phthalate <u>or a phosphate</u> is at most equal to 200% with respect to the weight of acrylic resin and/or the <u>a</u> weight proportion of the intumescent agent is at most equal to 200% with respect to the weight of acrylic resin.
- 16. (Withdrawn) The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the plasticizing medium comprises predominantly, by weight, an organic phosphate.
- 17. (Withdrawn) The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the proportion by weight of the plasticizing medium in the plastisol is between 100 and 200% by weight of resin.
- 18. (Withdrawn) The composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein the proportion by weight of the intumescent agent in the plastisol is between 50 and 200% by weight of resin.
- 19. (Withdrawn) A flame-retarded composite yarn with a sheath made of resin and of low combustibility, wherein it is capable of being obtained by the process as claimed in claim 14.
- 20. (Withdrawn) The yarn as claimed in claim 19, wherein the material of the core is a continuous glass filament.

- 21. (Withdrawn) A textile structure in which yarns as claimed in claim 20 are assembled or entangled.
- 22. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A sun screen comprising a textile structure as claimed in elaim 22.claim 21.
 - 23. (Withdrawn) A sign comprising a textile structure as claimed in claim 22.
- 24. (Withdrawn) A covering for walls or ceilings, comprising a textile structure as claimed in claim 22.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the plasticizing medium is between 120 and 145% by weight of resin.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the proportion by weight of the intumescent agent is between 150 and 200% by weight of resin.
- 27. (Withdrawn) The yarn as claimed in claim 7, wherein said material of low combustibility is a halogen-free material.
- 28. (Withdrawn) The composite structure as claimed in claim 9, wherein the substrate is a halogen-free substrate.
- 29. (Withdrawn) The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the proportion by weight of the plasticizing medium in the plastisol is between 120 and 145% by weight of resin.
- 30. (Withdrawn) The composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein the proportion by weight of the intumescent agent in the plastisol is between 150 and 200% by weight of resin.
- 31. (Withdrawn) The yarn as claimed in claim 19, wherein said sheath is made of a halogen-free material.